

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
NAVEL AND VALENCIA ORANGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2005
Tulare, CA**

Members Attending

Robert LoBue
Nick Hill
David Roberts
Ken Chipchase
Ron Matik
Brett Kirkpatrick

CDFA Representatives

Stacey Hughes
Gary Manning
Vic Tolomeo
Jeff Cesca
Susan Shelton

Interested Parties

Sam Vorhees, Kern County Ag.
Jack Marks, Kern County Ag.
Don Borges, Tulare County Ag.
Marilyn Kinoshita, Tulare County Ag.
Bob Blakely, CCM
Angela Godwin, Riverside County
Scotti Walker, Fresno County Ag.
Dennis Plann, Fresno County Ag.
Rafael Garcia, Tulare County Ag.

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 1:07 p.m. and self-introductions were made. A quorum was established.

ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 15, 2004 MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Ron Matik moved to accept the December 15, 2004 meeting minutes as submitted. Nick Hill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 3: AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS UPDATE

Vic Tolomeo reported that the first scheduled payment of \$37,800 has been made to the Navel and Valencia Program.

Jeff Cesca handed out a copy of the CDFA Orange Crop Survey Fund Condition Statement. Since September the fund condition has improved. Projected revenue was at \$175,800 and is now estimated at \$180,000.

ITEM 4: COUNTY INSPECTION RESULTS AND APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES

Fresno, Kern, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Clara, Tulare, and Ventura counties monthly activity reports were presented. The counties in attendance presented their individual information. The information reported included: how many premises were inspected, the number of lots and containers that were inspected and rejected, the number of maturity tests completed, county costs, etc. A handout was given to the committee members containing this information.

Actual County costs to-date are as follows:

FRESNO CO.	\$ 86,048
KERN CO.	\$ 65,157
RIVERSIDE CO.	\$ 16,200
SAN BERNARDINO CO.	\$ 1,809
SANTA CLARA CO.	\$ 3,124
TULARE CO.	\$154,261
VENTURA CO.	\$ 5,136

The total costs are: \$331,735

MOTION: Robert LoBue moved to approve the county expenditures. Brett Kirkpatrick seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 5: APPROVAL OF COUNTIES' PROPOSED BUDGETS FOR 2005/2006 SEASON

Kern County collected and compiled the proposed budgets from each of the participating counties. The proposed 2005/2006 Navel Orange Inspection Budget was passed out and discussed.

The budget proposals for the 2005/2006 Navel Orange Inspection Program are as follows:

FRESNO CO.	\$111,615.00
KERN CO.	95,039.55
RIVERSIDE CO.	19,264.00
SAN BERNARDINO CO.	13,167.13
SANTA CLARA CO.	4,404.80
TULARE CO.	179,540.00
VENTURA CO.	20,364.00

The total proposed budget amount is:\$443,394.48

Stacey Hughes explained that Ventura County contacted her and that their hourly rate is going to increase. As a result they will need to increase their budget to approximately \$22,000. It was suggested that the total budget should be approved for \$445,000.

MOTION: Robert LoBue moved to approve the total county budget at \$445,000. Nick Hill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 6: REVENUE REPORT/FUND BALANCE

Stacey gave the committee copies of the Navel and Valencia Program's Summary of Crop Year Revenue. She explained that this report reflects the monthly revenue of both the Navel and Valencia Program and the Orange Crop Program. She also noted the months are reported when CDFA receives the assessments not necessarily when the cartons are shipped. Revenues and balances as of January 31, 2005 are:

Valencia Revenue	\$ 10,550.49
Navel Revenue	160,759.25
Navel/Valencia Fund Balance	9,894.64 (Includes interest payment of \$311.61)
Bank of America Fund Balance	1,298,651.00 (Interest year-to-date is \$1,427.85)

ITEM 7: REVIEW PROPOSED LEGISLATION/CURRENT ASSESSMENT RATE

Bob Blakely of CCM presented the legislation that Assemblyman Bill Maze is putting forward to amend Chapter 48000 of the Food and Agriculture Code. The amendments would include:

1. Eliminate Section 48002.5, authorizing separate assessments for the crop estimating and acreage survey programs.
2. Amend Section 48002 to change Navel orange assessment to not exceed 11 mills and Valencia oranges not to exceed 6 mills.
3. Incorporate the authority to use assessment proceeds into Section 48002
4. Add mandarin citrus varieties to Chapter 48000
5. Add assessment of mandarins not to exceed 6 mills
6. Allow committee to recommend that no assessment be collected if no inspections or survey program exists for a variety.

The committee decided to create two subcommittees. One will be a legislation subcommittee and the other would be an agricultural fund balance and assessment subcommittee.

MOTION: Ron Matik moved to create the Legislation Subcommittee with Ken Chipchase, Bob Blakely, and Brett Kirkpatrick as members. Robert LoBue seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Nick Hill moved to create the Ag Fund Balance and Assessment Subcommittee with Ron Matik, Robert LoBue, and Kevin Severns as members. Ken Chipchase seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 8: OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ITEM 9: NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be September 14, 2005 in Tulare, CA at 1:00 P.M.

ITEM 9: ADJOURNMENT

As there was no other business to discuss, the Committee adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stacey Hughes, Supervisor
Inspection and Compliance Branch
Inspection Services

SH/ss